

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, PFOR, GE, US, FR

SUBJECT: GOF/GDR CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS

REF: PARIS 18247

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON JACQUES PLAISANT. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR CENTRAL EUROPE, ON JULY 16 TO DISCUSS GOF READING OF JULY 7-10 GDR/GOF NEGOTIATIONS ON CONSULAR CONVENTION. PLAISANT STRESSED GOF DESIRES FOR CLOSE COOPERATION WITH USG ON THESE NEGOTIATIONS, EXPRESSED DISMAY AT WHAT HE CALLED BRITISH "CAVING IN" DURING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GDR AND NOTED THAT GDR REPRESENTATIVES HAD REQUESTED MORE REGULAR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS.

2. PLAISANT CONFIRMED THAT THREE AREAS HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT IN THE GOF/GDR DISCUSSIONS. OR THE QUESTION OF NATIONALITY, THE GDR REPRESENTATIVES HAD FOUND A PREVIOUS GOF/FRG ACCORD IN WHICH GOF HAD ACCEPTED THE FRG'S DEFINITION OF NATIONALITY FROM FRG BASIC LAW.

GDR HAD GONE ON TO ASK THAT GOF EXTEND THE SAME
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"COURTESY" IN THE CURRENT CONVENTION. PLAISANT SAID

THE FRENCH SIDE HAD BEEN BOTH SURPRISED AND DISMAYED TO HEAR OF THIS PRECEDENT AND HAD ASKED THAT THE QUESTION BE TABLED UNTIL MORE LEGAL RESEARCH HAD BEEN DONE.

3. ON DUAL NATIONALITY PROBLEM, PLAISANT ECHOED LINE TAKEN BY QUAI ACTING TOR FOR CONSULAR AND TREATY AFFAIRS JEANNOT IN CONVERSATION WITH CONSUL GENERAL (REFTEL). AWARE OF JEANNOT'S REMARKS, PLAISANT SAID GOF WOULD STAND FIRM ON RIGHT OF DUAL NATIONALS TO HAVE ACCESS TO CONSULS OF THEIR CHOICE IF THE USG CONTINUED TO SUPPORT THIS VIEW.

4. PLAISANT NOTED THAT GOF HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN FAR MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN THE / US IN ALLOWING CONSULS TO BENEFIT FROM DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES. STATING THAT THE QUESTION DID NOT INVOLVE JOINT ALLIED RESPONSIBILITIES IN GERMANY, PLAISANT CONCLUDED ON THIS ISSUE BY NOTING THAT EACH NATION NEGOTIATING A CONSULAR CONVENTION SHOULD BE FREE TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE IN CONCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL LAW, TRADITION AND DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE.

5. PLAISANT NOTED THAT QUAI POLITICAL SIDE IS RECOMMENDING THAT GOF HOLD FIRM ON BOTH NATIONALITIES ISSUES' HE ASSUMES THAT THIS RECOMMENDATION WILL BE ACCEPTED. NOTING "EXTREME" LACK OF FRENCH URGENCY IN ACONVENTION, PLAISANT ASKED THAT HE BE KEPT INFORMED OF OUTCOME OF UPCOMING USG/GDR NEGOTIATIONS.
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